



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

**COFNOD O BENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO GAN SWYDDOG**  
**RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION**

**Penderfyniad Allweddol | Key Decision** ✓

**PWNC | SUBJECT:**

Applications to the Welsh Government Funding Programme - Town Centre Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity

**DIBEN YR ADRODDIAD | PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:**

In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended officer decision of the Director of Prosperity and Development as described below:

The purpose of the report is:

- To provide details on the Welsh Government's Town Centre Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Funding Programme.
- To seek approval for the submission of two applications to the Town Centre Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Funding Programme by the deadline of 31 January 2020.

**PENDERFYNIAD WEDI'I DDIRPRWYO | DELEGATED DECISION:**

It is agreed that:

- Applications are prepared for submission to Welsh Government by 31 January 2020.

SIMON GALE

31-1-20

Llofnod y Prif Swyddog  
Chief Officer Signature

Enw (priflythrennau)  
Name (Print Name)

Dyddiad  
Date

Mae'r penderfyniad yn cael ei wneud yn unol ag Adran 15 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 2000 (Swyddogaethau'r Corff Gweithredol) ac yn y cylch gorchwyl sy wedi'i nodi yn Adran 5 o Ran 3 o Gyfansoddiad y Cyngor.

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

**YMGYNGHORI | CONSULTATION**



31-1-20

**LLOFNOD YR AELOD YMGYNGHOROL O'R CABINET  
CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE**

**DYDDIAD | DATE**



31-1-20

**LLOFNOD SWYDDOG YMGYNGHOROL  
CONSULTEE OFFICER SIGNATURE**

**DYDDIAD | DATE**

**RHEOLAU'R WEITHDREFN GALW-I-MEWN | CALL IN PROCEDURE RULES.**

**A YW'R PENDERFYNIAD YN UN BRYN A HEB FOD YN DESTUN PROSES GALW-I-MEWN GAN Y PWYLLGOR TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU?:**

**IS THE DECISION DEEMED URGENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO CALL-IN BY THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:**

**YDY | YES ✓      NAC YDY | NO**

**Rheswm dros fod yn fater brys | Reason for Urgency:**

...The application must be submitted to Welsh Government by 31st January 2020 .....

**Os yw'n cael ei ystyried yn fater brys - llofnod y Llywydd, y Dirprwy Lywydd neu Bennaeth y Gwasanaeth Cyflogedig yn cadarnhau cytundeb fod y penderfyniad arfaethedig yn rhesymol yn yr holl amgylchiadau iddo gael ei drin fel mater brys, yn unol â rheol gweithdrefn trosolwg a chraffu 17.2:**

*If deemed urgent - signature of Presiding Member or Deputy Presiding Member or Head of Paid Service confirming agreement that the proposed decision is reasonable in all the circumstances for it being treated as a matter of urgency, in accordance with the overview and scrutiny procedure rule 17.2:*



.....  
(Llywydd | Presiding Member)

31-1-20

.....  
(Dyddiad | Date)

**DS - Os yw hwn yn benderfyniad sy'n cael ei ail-ystyried yna does dim modd galw'r penderfyniad i mewn a bydd y penderfyniad yn dod i rym o'r dyddiad mae'r penderfyniad wedi'i lofnodi.**

**NB - If this is a reconsidered decision then the decision Cannot be Called In and the decision will take effect from the date the decision is signed.**

**AT DDEFNYDD Y SWYDDFA YN UNIG | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

**DYDDIADAU CYHOEDDI A GWEITHREDU | PUBLICATION & IMPLEMENTATION DATES**

**CYHOEDDI | PUBLICATION**

Cyhoeddi ar Wefan y Cyngor | Publication on the Councils Website:- 31-1-20

**DYDDIAD | DATE**

**GWEITHREDU'R PENDERFYNIAD | IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION**

**Nodwch:** Fydd y penderfyniad hwn ddim yn dod i rym nac yn cael ei weithredu'n llawn nes cyn pen 3 diwrnod gwaith ar ôl ei gyhoeddi. Nod hyn yw ei alluogi i gael ei "Alw i Mewn" yn unol â Rheol 17.1, Rheolau Gweithdrefn Trosolwg a Chraffu.

**Note:** This decision will not come into force and may not be implemented until the expiry of 3 clear working days after its publication to enable it to be the subject to the Call-In Procedure in Rule 17.1 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

**Yn amodol ar y drefn "Galw i Mewn", caiff y penderfyniad ei roi ar waith ar / Subject to Call In the implementation date will be**

N/A 31-1-20  
**DYDDIAD / DATE**

**WEDI'I GYMERADWYO I'W GYHOEDDI: ✓ | APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION :✓**

**Rhagor o wybodaeth | Further Information:**

Cyfadran   Directorate:	Prosperity and Development
Enw'r Person Cyswllt   Contact Name:	Derek James
Swydd   Designation:	Service Director Prosperity and Development
Rhif Ffôn   Telephone Number:	01443 281115

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**A REPORT TO ACCOMPANY A DECISION OF THE DIRECTOR OF  
PROSPERITY AND DEVELOPMENT**

**JANUARY 2020**

**WELSH GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROGRAMME – TOWN CENTRE GREEN  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND BIODIVERSITY**

**AUTHOR: DEREK JAMES, SERVICE DIRECTOR PROSPERITY AND  
DEVELOPMENT**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The report provides details on the Welsh Government's Town Centre Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Funding Programme.
- 1.2 The purpose of the report is to seek approval for the submission of two applications to the Town Centre Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Funding Programme by the deadline of 31 January 2020.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 The applications identified in the report are submitted to Welsh Government by the deadline of 31 January 2020.

**3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 The Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Programme provides an opportunity to invest in greening projects that will deliver significant environmental benefits. This will have a positive impact on the town centres contributing to their regeneration and longer term sustainability.
- 3.2 Any funding secured through this Welsh Government Funding Programme will add value to the investment already taking place in the Parks and the town centres.

## **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Welsh Government's newly launched 'Transforming Towns' programme recognises that many towns are struggling with the decline in retail sales and that the way town centres are used is changing. 'Transforming Towns' is a wider approach to transforming town centres which recognises their importance to environmental, economic, social and cultural well-being in Wales.
- 4.2 As part of this overall package of support, one of the key investments is the 'Town Centre Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Programme' which will support greening projects which will deliver environmental benefits, making town centres more attractive places to live, work and visit.

## **5. TOWN CENTRE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND BIODIVERSITY PROGRAMME**

- 5.1 There is £5million available across all Wales and funding can be for pilot or demonstrator projects. The support will be primarily aligned to town centres within the existing Targeted Regeneration Initiative (TRI) boundaries – for Rhondda Cynon Taf this is Pontypridd Town Centre. However if the support is requested for a proposal outside of a TRI priority town, the application will need justify this request including detail of other investment activity being delivered in the area.
- 5.2 There is no set intervention rate but availability of match funding from non-Welsh Government will strengthen an application. Projects can be stand alone, an add-on to projects being delivered through other programmes or as a retrofit to existing buildings/sites. There is no upper or lower limit to the size of a project, however if projects are small scale, Welsh Government would expect to see multiple interventions in the town centre for impact.
- 5.2 Applications made to the Town Centre Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Programme must;
- Be for capital costs only
  - Be complete, or substantially complete by 31 March 2021.
  - Address the 5 core Green Infrastructure principles of being multi-functional, biodiverse, adapted for climate change, health, smart and sustainable.
  - Be designed and delivered in a way that ensures long-term sustainability. and a minimal requirement for revenue commitment in future years.
  - Demonstrate a positive impact on town centres and placemaking.
  - Contribute to health and wellbeing in the town centre environment.

## **6. PROPOSED APPLICATIONS**

A summary of the applications is set out below;

### **6.1 'Pretty Ponty' Mill Street, Pontypridd Town Centre**

- The scheme proposes the installation of raingardens and tree pits, which will manage an existing surface water flooding issue affecting the gateway. The proposals are designed to provide an adaptive form of flood alleviation that is resilient for the future taking into account the effects of climate change.
- The project is aimed at contributing to the 'place making' of Pontypridd Town Centre, through targeted development of a Green corridor. The works propose to deliver a multifunctional space within one of Pontypridd's Gateways where local bus stops and Town Center parking provisions are located.

### **6.2 'Trees for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century' - Ynysangharad War Memorial Park and Aberdare Park**

- The scheme proposes the planting of ornamental trees in Ynysangharad War Memorial Park and Aberdare Park as part of pilot scheme to support the development of a 'Trees for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century' strategy. This will contribute to a quality landscape, improving the townscape, encouraging biodiversity and creating a positive impact on the wellbeing of the community.

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## **7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full report is not required at this time. The screening form can be accessed by contacting the author of the report or the Cabinet Business Officer

## **8. CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 Discussions have taken place with Finance. Relevant Service Areas have been consulted and have developed the applications identified in this report.



## 9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The outline financial profile of each project is shown below:

Project	Total Cost	Grant Requested
Pretty Ponty	£35,000	£35,000
Trees for 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	£34,065	£34,065

## 10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

10.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) screening form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full report is not required at this time. The screening form can be accessed by contacting the author of the report or the Cabinet Business Officer.

## 11. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

11.1 The applications to the "Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Programme" will contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan 2016-2020:

- **Economy** – building a strong economy by contributing to the regeneration of town centres.
- **People** – promoting positive lives for everyone.
- **Place** – creating attractive and healthy neighbourhoods where people are proud to live, work and visit.

11.2 The applications will make a significant positive contribution to the seven goals set out in the Well-Being of Future Generations Act, in particular a prosperous Wales, a resilient Wales, a healthier Wales and a Wales of cohesive communities.

## 12. CONCLUSION

12.1 The Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Programme provides an opportunity to invest in greening projects that will deliver significant environmental benefits. This will have a positive impact on the town centres contributing to their regeneration and longer term sustainability.

12.2 Any funding secured through this Welsh Government Funding Programme will add value to the investment already taking place in the Parks and the town centres.

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**Other Information: -**

***Relevant Scrutiny Committee***

**Contact Office: Derek James Tel: (01443) 281115**